



What Fashion Has Decided He Shall Wear

MEN'S clothing, meaning suits and overcoats, will return to the normal style this fall. This is practically agreed upon by the custom trade and the ready-to-wear makers alike.

According to one of the former, an acknowledged authority in sartorial matters: "We are drawing away from the so-called English style. Clothes will be simply natural this fall, with no frills. The style may be described as American, or perhaps cosmopolitan would be the better word. Clothes for men will be cut to fit, well balanced, made up in moderation; we will have no padded shoulders, no exaggerated chest. Trousers will be cut moderately close-fitting, and of average length—that is, they will reach to the heel."

This style prevails in the output of the ready-to-wear houses. Worsteds, cassimeres, chevots and tweeds, of clearcut design and soft finish, will be most popular in the make-up of gentlemen's clothes this fall and winter. Brown effects, greys and blue-greys will be most observable among good dressers during the coming season. Chinchillas will go big, too, according to the opinion of many prominent dealers.

Very few double breasted sack coats

will be seen on business men. As a rule business coats will carry three buttons, single breasted, with pointed lapel, 30 $\frac{1}{4}$ or 31 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length, according to the height of the wearer.

Very slight demand for the frock, or cutaway, is anticipated, although in suburban or rural localities, where formal dress is seldom worn, the cutaway is always proper for semi-formal functions, and in most cases forms a becoming garment. The fall and winter frocks carry three buttons, only one of which is supposed to be fastened, the edge of the coat rounding with a graceful curve from the centre of the chest to the bottom of the garment, which, from collar to end, is about 35 inches in length.

A popular overcoat for the coming season will be a short, belted garment, with a pleat in the back, reaching barely to the knee. In spite of the crusade made against them last year, chinchillas are coming back into the public favor, and will be particularly noticeable in a long, double-breasted coat.

"In spite of the dissatisfaction the trade has experienced in regard to soft fabrics," said the manager of a well-known high-class ready-to-wear house, just returned from a tour of the European fashion centres, "the public demands them, and they will be worn again—rough, shaggy stuff, and at the end of the season you will find chinchillas very popular. I really believe that the merchant who plunges on them will be left; a great many will be worn, but there will be considerable dissatisfaction. Many manufacturers are experimenting with this kind of coat; but in my judgment there are only three or four manufacturers in the United States who can turn out a really good chinchilla. These sell from \$80 up. These coats will be seen in blues, greys and olive brown.

As to raglans, the same authority declared: "The raglan has almost seen its last day here. I believe it will die as quickly as it did eight or nine years ago, when it practically died overnight. In fact, when in Europe the only raglans I saw were old ones, that the owners were evidently trying to wear out. I saw more in Berlin than in London, and none at all in Paris."

A comfortable garment for fall wear is a box coat, with shawl collar and double breast; but this is too short for winter wear. There are so many different models for sack coats that it is difficult to describe them; but as a rule they are cut with form-fitting shoulders, a soft roll, no pads nor chest exaggeration. Chevots and wools will outnumber the worsteds two to one this winter. Double breasted sacks are also coming in again, and are likely to be quite popular by the time real cold weather sets in.

There seems to be a general demand throughout the country for a narrow-shouldered coat; this demand did not exist last year, but is making itself more and more apparent as the fall season advances. This undoubtedly accounts for the abandonment of the padded shoulder that sought to make Reggy and Percy look like real athletes, don't-re-know?

While speaking of the frock coat I should have added that, while not in popular demand, with it should be worn grey striped trousers, while the vest may be of the same material as the coat, or a white one. If the black vest is worn, the demi-vest, with white edging, is proper; with this should go an ascot tie and a winged collar. Cloth-topped shoes, pearl-grey gloves and a silk hat complete this semi-formal dress.

There will be a big call for Norfolks this fall, I am assured by persons who should know. This jacket always makes a comfortable, useful and nobby outing garment, for automobiling and practically every sort of outdoor sport. As a matter of fact, many well-groomed men wear them to business. Others keep one at the office and don it when they assume the duties of the day. The Norfolk also makes an excellent lounging coat to wear around the house, in the library, smoking or billiard room. This fall the Norfolk will be made principally from a chevot in fancy patterns.

Vests this fall will show a general tendency to a high cut—high enough to be visible above the lapel when the coat is buttoned. Vests are made for the coming season without collars, and will carry five and six buttons. Opinions seem to differ as to the demand for fancy vests. A few houses which make a specialty of this kind of garment are making vigorous efforts to push them, and report that they are meeting with great success in this line; but the trade in general seems to have little use for them.

The "peg-top" effect has vanished entirely from the trousers made for the fall and winter season. While not exactly tight, they are made more snug, more close-fitting, than for a long time past. The "cuff" at the bottom of the legs will be noticeable only by its absence, and the trousers will reach to the heels.

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